Access to institutional credit facility

200. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large segment of the poor in the country has no access to institutional credit facility to improve their economic condition;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including various types of credits extended, including for self-employment, SSI, agriculture, etc. during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether Government propose to frame a charter to make credit a human right; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (d) An Institutional Credit delivery mechanism is in place to extend credit to large number of borrowers including the poor. The reach of these institutions is being further increased through various policy measures such as the Business Correspondent and Business Facilitator models and SHG-Bank Linkage Programme.

Multiple taxation

201. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of taxes such as VAT, Sales Tax that are passed on to the consumers by the retailers;

(b) whether Government are aware that people are affected by multiple taxation of this kind; and

(c) whether Government would make a thorough study of the impact o such taxation on the standard of living to reassess the current taxation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Usually, indirect taxes are passed

on to the consumers. Indirect taxes are levied by the Central Government as well as State Governments. Such taxes include customs duties (on import of goods), excise duties (on production or manufacture of goods), service tax, central sales tax, State sales tax/VAT, etc.

(b) and (c) In India, the total burden of taxes on the consumers, as reflected by tax-GDP ratio, is lower compared to many other countries. However, multiplicity of taxes does cause inconvenience to the taxpayers. The Central as well as State Governments have been making efforts to simplify the tax system. For instance, with the introduction of State-level VAT, a number of taxes on purchase or sale of goods have been abolished/ replaced. The Government has already announced its intention to introduce an integrated Goods and Services Tax (GST) by 1st April, 2010, with the precise objective of replacing the multiple indirect taxes by a single tax, in line with international best practices.

Performance of public sectors

202. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the position of development in the country;

(b) whether it is all round development or lopsided development;

(c) whether it is a fact that the development is lopsided in rural parts in the wake of increasing suicidal deaths; and

(d) whether the development as a whole, is due to the goods performance of domestic private sectors while Government sectors fail everywhere except a few with too much of corruption and inefficiency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) During the Tenth Plan period (2002-07), the overall growth of the economy in terms of GDP at factor cost at constant 1999-2000 prices was 7.6 per cent per annum. Agriculture, industry and services sector grew at average rate of 2.3 per cent, 8.7 per cent, and 9.3 per cent, respectively. While the growth of industry and services sectors has been very good, agriculture has been showing low